

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH AND
SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

June 30, 2009

INFORMATION SHARING TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE

The welfare and overall well-being of children is, first and foremost, the responsibility of their birth parents. When birth parents endanger their children, child welfare must become the shared responsibility of all County departments, non-County agencies and community-based partners serving the family.

On June 24, 2008, this Board directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and affected County agencies to develop a proposal to automate information sharing about clients simultaneously served within County departments and public agencies; and recommendations for legislative changes to address prohibitions against it. One of the recommendations in the CEO's ensuing report was to implement technical enhancements to expand the County's under-utilized Family and Children Index (FCI); and to seek those legislative changes necessary to do so.

On May 26, 2009, this Board directed the CEO and affected County agencies to report on the current utilization of the County's FCI by each of its participating agencies; the training necessary for participating agencies to increase and maximize their FCI utilization; and planned enhancements to both FCI's membership and application, including those requiring legislative changes to implement.

On June 12, 2009, the CEO's report recommended a phased implementation approach that included short-, mid- and long-term strategies to increase FCI utilization.

On June 22, 2009, as part of its FY 2009-2010 adopted budget, the Board of Supervisors approved an appropriation sufficient to support the necessary enhancements to enable efficient utilization of FCI.

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MOLINA _____

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Time is of the essence; and this Board takes very seriously the need to significantly improve the County's ability to identify, prevent and treat incidents of child abuse and neglect.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Officer, in conjunction with all affected departments, to:

- (1) Immediately implement those short-term recommendations contained in the June 12, 2009 report that do not require funding or legislative changes to implement, including the mandating of FCI utilization by all affected County departments;
- (2) Report back to the Board within 30 days on the timeline required to implement any remaining short- and mid-term recommendations that *do* require the additional funding appropriated to FCI expansion; and
- (3) Report back to the Board quarterly thereafter on:
 - (a) progress in implementing the short- and mid- and long-term term goals in the CEO's June 12, 2009 report;
 - (b) progress in pursuing the legislative changes necessary for more comprehensive information sharing, which have been identified by County Counsel;
 - (c) FCI utilization rates by all affected departments; and
 - (d) child safety outcomes and cost benefits.

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